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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/762,807	08/03/2001	Alexandr I. Silaev	12161-02	1115

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EXAMINER

HARRISON, JESSICA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3714

DATE MAILED: 08/01/2003

76

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/762,807

Applicant(s)

SILAEV, ALEXANDR I.

Examiner

Jessica J. Harrison

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because they contain unlabeled boxes and Russian language text.

From 37 CFR 1.84. Standards for drawings. :

(n) Symbols . Graphical drawing symbols may be used for conventional elements when appropriate. The elements for which such symbols and labeled representations are used must be adequately identified in the specification. Known devices should be illustrated by symbols which have a universally recognized conventional meaning and are generally accepted in the art. Other symbols which are not universally recognized may be used, subject to approval by the Office, if they are not likely to be confused with existing conventional symbols, and *if they are readily identifiable*. Here, back boxes utilized to illustrate circuitry identified only with numerals are not readily identifiable and fail to aid the public in rapidly ascertaining the content of any granted patent. Furthermore, all text should be in English language. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure does not commence on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.52(b)(4). A new abstract of the disclosure is required and must be presented on a separate sheet, apart from any other text.

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The disclosure is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. Applicant is required to delete the embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. See MPEP § 608.01.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 15, 16 and 19-26 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim must reference claims in the alternative only and may not serve as the basis for any other multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 15, 16 and 19 – 26 have not been further treated on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. It is not clear if the specification is inadequate or if the difficulty arises from the foreign

language translation. The examiner has read the specification multiple times and has difficulty in ascertaining precisely what applicant has invented. Terminology which may be common in applicant's country such as "force of minimum", "force of minimax", "force of zero" and "iterative-analytical wager drawing process" are not common in the United States gaming arts and are not understood. Applicant has illustrated a series of circuit diagrams and has listed names for them but the names are not common in US practice. What is a play round counter? What is a wager generator? What is a recognition/identification unit? Furthermore, the paragraph-long sentences render comprehension more difficult. The listed deficiencies are not meant to be an exhaustive listing but merely illustrative of the problems. No clear correspondence can be drawn between claim language and specification description/drawing element. While the specification is comprehensible to the extent of it encompassing a wagering method with signals, codes, processes and rounds, the written description (or translation) appears so poorly drafted it is not known what applicant has invented rendering meaningful application of prior art difficult if not impossible.

A substitute specification including the claims is required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.125(a) because of the deficiencies outlined hereinabove.

A substitute specification filed under 37 CFR 1.125(a) must only contain subject matter from the original specification and any previously entered amendment under 37 CFR 1.121. If the substitute specification contains

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additional subject matter not of record, the substitute specification must be filed under 37 CFR 1.125(b) and must be accompanied by: 1) a statement that the substitute specification contains no new matter; and 2) a marked-up copy showing the amendments to be made via the substitute specification relative to the specification at the time the substitute specification is filed.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors. This rejection follows on that set forth above. Clear steps should be delineated in describing the method. The claims should correspond in terms and phrases to those used in the specification so that the claim's scope may be ascertained. Care should be exercised in drafting method steps meant to be performed with particular apparatus structure to ensure the steps are so limited and that overall a statutory process is defined. It is urged applicant

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redraft the claims to conform with current US practice and clearly define the invention.

As noted above, the examiner has difficulty in understanding precisely applicant's invention. It is not felt prior art can be reasonably applied at this time. The patent to Richardson is being cited to the record as it was readily available to the examiner and as best understood, may be relevant to the instant claims. Applicant is thanked in advance for his cooperation in amending the application to conform to US practice and/or any explanation of the invention applicant can provide to the record to aid in examination.

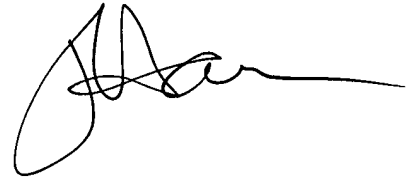
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jessica J. Harrison whose telephone number is 703-308-2217. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 hour/M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Hughes can be reached on 703-308-1806. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9302 for regular communications and 703-872-9303 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0858.

jjh
July 26, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Harrison', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

JESSICA HARRISON
PRIMARY EXAMINER